



PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Stephen P. Sinnott, Acting United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that a federal grand jury sitting in Madison returned a four-count superseding indictment today charging Joseph Poole, DOB: 12/29/50, with the armed bank robberies of the Mid America Bank in Janesville, Wisconsin, on November 23, 2003; the F&M Bank in Hudson, Wisconsin, on April 9, 2003; and the Associated Bank in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, on April 3, 2003.

The superseding indictment also alleges that Poole and David Dewey conspired to commit bank robbery in Oregon, Washington, Oklahoma, and Wisconsin between December 17, 2002, and November 21, 2003. If convicted, Poole faces a maximum penalty of 25 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and a three-year term of supervised release for each of the armed bank robberies, and a five-year term of imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, and a three-year term of supervised release on the conspiracy charge. Dewey previously entered a guilty plea in U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois regarding his role in the bank robberies he committed.

The charges against Poole are the result of an investigation conducted by the Janesville Police Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with the assistance of the Hudson Police Department and the Eau Claire Police Department.

Prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul W. Connell.

You are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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